

of shorter date than fourteen years, as clocks. No annual election of officials forming anything like the Company's London Board takes place among the partners of the Fur Trade. The only approximation to a common action which exists is afforded by the annual meetings of the Council before referred to, which all Chief Factors and Chief Traders are entitled to attend. Again, the Board in London have a special representative in Rupert Land in the person of the Governor. He is president of the councils of officers held in the country, and there is no instance of his having been outvoted or his action set aside by any such body. On the other hand the Fur Trade has no representative at the house in London.

The partners of the Fur Trade are connected with the Company under such provisions that their incomes fluctuate with the alterations of the annual profits of the trade. A definite number of shares composes their aggregate interest. Of these, a Chief Trader possesses one, and a Chief Factor two. Vacancies in their ranks are immediately filled up as they occur from the death or retirement of the members, the qualification necessary to obtain the commission being a majority of all the votes of all the Chief Factors. The candidates for a factorship are necessarily Traders, while those for a vacant tradership are from the ranks of salaried clerks, seldom of less than fourteen years' standing in the service.

The enormous extent of the territory over which the Hudson Bay Company carries on its trade, and throughout which depôts and posts are established, can scarcely be comprehended at a merely cursory glance. From Pembina, on the Red River, to Fort Anderson, on the Mackenzie, is as great a distance as from London to Mecca; the space between the Company's post at Sault Ste. Marie and Fort Simpson, on the Pacific, measures more than 2,500 geographical miles; from the King's Posts to the Pelley Banks is farther than from Paris to Samarcand. The area of country under its immediate influence is about 4,500,000 square miles or more than one-third greater than the whole extent of Europe.

For purposes of trade the original chartered territories of the Company, and the vast outlying circuit of commercial relations, are divided into sections called the Northern, Southern, Montreal, and Western departments. Of these, the Northern Department is situated between Hudson Bay and the Rocky Mountains; the Southern between James' Bay and Canada, including also East Main, on the Eastern shore of Hudson Bay; the Montreal department comprehends the extent of the business in the Canadas; while the Western comprises the regions west of the Rocky Mountains. These four departments are divided into fifty-three smaller portions, called districts, each of which is under the direction of a superintending officer, and has a depôt fort, to which all the supplies for the district are forwarded, and to which all furs and other produce are sent for shipment to England. These districts are again subdivided into numerous minor establishments, forts, posts, and outposts. Over each of these there is an officer and from two to forty men, mechanics, labourers and servants. Besides, the Company employs multitudes of men as voyageurs, manning and working the boats and canoes in every part of the territory. The discipline and etiquette maintained are of the strictest kind, and an *esprit du corps* exists between the three thousand of officers—commissioned and non-commissioned—voyageurs and servants such as is only to be found in the army, or in an ancient and honourable service.

The forts and trading posts of the Company are scattered over its immense territories at distances apart varying from fifty to three hundred miles. A better idea may, perhaps, be obtained of their relative positions, and of the isolated lives of their garrisons, by imagining the broad State of Ohio planted in the middle of the fur country. In that event the Company would build one trading post in it.—H. M. ROBINSON, in *Harper's Magazine for June*.

THE TWO.

As to the question of the sexes, I think that woman's *toris fdras* is the stamp of her inferiority. It ends the discussion with me. I can't respect my sex as I do the other while we are such creatures of dress. Here a man and his wife are projecting a journey. The man is equipped in an hour, and his attention is free for the higher considerations of the occasion, but the woman must have a week for her preparations, and starts off fagged out with shopping, and dressmaking, and packing. Go to Wilhelm's concert. The gentlemen performers are not distinguished at all by their dress, unless it is by its simplicity. Wilhelm's black coat is buttoned across his breast up to his collar, and his wrist hands are quite inconspicuous. But the lady singer comes in dragging a peacock's tail unsprung, and tattooed from head to foot with colours and frills and embroidery. What is a wedding to a woman? It is a bride's satins and laces and jewels. The sentiment of the circumstance is all smothered in dress. She can neither feel solemn nor gay—she is a spectacle of clothes. You bring me Scripture for her relief: "Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire?" I don't say she can any more than a leopard can change his spots: I only say it is something which stamps her inferiority.

If you quote revelation, I will quote nature. According to nature man should be apparelled in brighter colours and with more fanciful decoration than women, and should think more of his appearance. See the peacock and gobbler and rooster, and the male birds generally. The lion cultivates a flowing mane, but the lioness wears her hair as meek as a Methodist. The human female seems to have lost her natural prestige, and is fain to make herself attractive in meretricious ways.

Imagine a man compressing his ribs with stays, or trampling his legs with skirts; let alone swathing them up after the mummy fashion of to-day.

Imagine him spending an hour every morning in fixing his hair for a day-long torment. He will have his dress subservient to health and comfort and freedom of breath and motion. You say he is in bondage to the change of fashion as much as the women are. But he contrives to keep these conditions intact. His new styles are not allowed to in-

trench on his comfort and health and the higher interests of life. If he changes the cut of his hair, he still keeps the sweetness and unconsciousness of short locks: he does not let them grow inconveniently long, or canker his head with a frowsy chignon. If he changes the fashion of his coat, it is almost unnoticeable, and you may be sure it is at no sacrifice of ease. His pantaloons may be cut a little more bagging or a little more statuesque, but never with trails or any impediment to his natural gait. His hat is always the same serviceable sunshade, and his cap the same protection from the weather, no matter what the details of style.

Well, you say that the women dress to please the men, and if women are foolish men make them so. My answer to that is, that men are as fond of pleasing women as women are of pleasing men, and more so; but they have wit enough to accomplish their object without the monstrous sacrifices women make. Whether any amount of education and opportunity will give women this wit, or diminish the advantage man has gained, remains to be seen.—*American Socialist*.

SWIMMING AND ROWING.

Every one ought to know how to swim. There is not the least art in the simple act of keeping the head above water. Trust the water, and the water will trust you. Keep yourself as far immersed as possible, do not allow even a finger to be above the surface, and you cannot sink if you try. No one knows how hard it is to sink until they have endeavoured to do so. Even in an ordinary bath the water floats the bather to the surface, and much more is it the case in the river or the sea. In fact, most of those who are drowned lose their lives because they drown themselves. They are so terrified with the feeling of having nothing under their feet, that they absolutely try to crawl out of the water upon their hands and knees. Then the water gets into their eyes and blinds them. A swimmer never closes his eyes while under water, and can see well enough to catch a sixpence before it reaches the ground. In fact, a first-rate swimmer can stand on one side of a ship, throw a sixpence over to the other side, dive under the vessel's keel, and catch the sixpence on the other side. There are absurd statements to the effect that if a swimmer dives, and closes his eyes, the pressure of water will prevent him from opening them. This is all nonsense, for it is just as easy to open and close the eyes under water as on land. Now to come to the question of learning to swim and its supposed dangers. There is no danger, and the human being swims as naturally as a frog if only put into the water at a sufficiently early age. Some years ago I saw Beckwith take his little child, only three years of age, drop her into the deep water, and push her into the middle of the bath. The little thing lay quite composedly in the water until her father threw a piece of tape over her, which she grasped, and so was drawn ashore. But the idea of being drowned never entered the mind of her father or herself. It was a similar case with me. I have no recollection of the time when the water was not as familiar to me as the land. My father took me to the river almost as soon as I could walk, and let me shift for myself. I never was taught to swim, because it came as naturally as walking. So here is an example of the great fact that danger when anticipated is practically abolished.

Now we come to say something about rowing, which has its element of danger, even though the rower knows how to swim. The boat may be capsized and he carried under it, and to be carried under a boat is no trifle. You cannot see your way, for the boat creates an impenetrable shadow. Your head and hands are covered with tar, and when you do emerge you are nearly as exhausted as if you had been keel-hauled according to the good old times of the British navy. All of us who have been oarsmen must remember our first efforts. How the sculls would not come out of the water, how feathering was an unapproachable mystery, and how at last the sculls came out of the water unexpectedly, and the unlucky rower was deposited on his back at the bottom of the boat, the sculls flying anywhere. It is not a bad lesson to be forced to understand that we cannot do anything without learning; and, easy as it looks, rowing is as difficult for a beginner as skating or playing the violin. Objections have been made to rowing on the ground that it is injurious to the heart or the lungs, or both. The statement is entirely untrue. Of course a man may be injudicious in rowing as well as in walking, or running, or hunting, but the fault lies with himself and not with the oar. The training of the Oxford and Cambridge boat crews is a sufficient answer to the question. The men are not allowed to put forth their full energies at first, but have their work increased day by day, with an occasional rest, until the race is to be rowed. At the end of the race one crew is sure to be exhausted—the other is in not a much better condition. Yet, so powerful is the effect of judicious training that in a few minutes both crews will be as well as ever, and probably cracking jokes with each other. There is a curious point connected with this race. Men of both universities wear their respective colours until the race is over. Then it is held to be etiquette for those of the winning side to remove their colours, while those of the losing side retain them for the day. The one does not wish to appear exultant in victory, and the other shows that there is no shame in defeat. I have seen and described nearly all the celebrated races, and have found this rule, though unwritten and unspoken, to be invariably carried out. As to the injurious effect of rowing on the after life of the oarsmen, I do not believe them. There are now living many men holding the highest rank in different professions, who are among the strongest and healthiest of their class, and who have been notable members of the university crews. As to the question of training, about which there is such difference of opinion, I propose to revert to it in a future paper. But, putting aside training, there is no doubt that the almost insatiable love of rowing, which is inherent in the British mind, has had a very strong influence on the British character. And, in order to avoid misunderstanding, I wish to state that in the single word British I include Scotch, Irish, Welsh, together with the singular miscellany of races with which England proper is populated.—*J. G. Ward, M.A.*

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

MR. GLADSTONE is expected to read a paper on the Church in Wales at the English Church Congress, next fall.

JOHN B. GOUGH will prolong his stay in Great Britain till October, and will deliver twelve temperance lectures in England and six in Scotland.

IN Italy the Papal party is coming to the front again. At a recent election they elected eleven candidates while the Liberals retained only five.

INFORMATION from Panama says that the revolution in Magdalena is over, and that President Kobles is in prison. About 600 lives were lost in the struggle.

GOV. TAFT, of Massachusetts, forbids the running of excursion trains on the Sabbath through the Hoosac Tunnel and its railroad connections which are owned by the state.

A SITE has been chosen in the north part of Berlin, where a new church is needed, on which to erect a church as a memorial of the preservation of the life of Emperor William.

THE Rivington Street Flower Mission has already distributed over 50,000 nosegays and growing plants among the sick and poor in the tenement-houses on the east side of New York.

A MORE rigid censorship of the press has been established in Russia. The "New York Herald" and a scientific magazine, it is said, are the only American journals allowed to enter.

WE believe that the Italian physicians were not far wrong who, in their Congress at Pisa, expressed the opinion that suicide is much promoted by the newspaper reports of cases that occur.

ROCHESTER UNIVERSITY has secured \$100,000 towards its additional endowment fund by three subscriptions, one of \$50,000 from J. H. Deane, and two of \$25,000 each from J. B. Trevor and J. Milbank.

THE Rev. Dr. Mullens, Secretary of the London Missionary Society, and his two associates have reached Zanzibar. Dr. Mullens's trip is for the purpose of superintending the establishment of the mission at Ujiji.

JOHN B. GOUGH is in his sixty-second year, has travelled about 420,000 miles and delivered nearly 8,000 lectures within the last thirty-seven years, and yet he has not been in bed a whole day from illness since 1846.

THE Moravians, as appears from their statistical report, just published, number in all 30,619. Of these 8,278 are in Europe, 5,705 in Great Britain, and 16,236 in the United States, besides 400 missionaries and their children.

THE reported failure of crops in England, Ireland and France seem to be confirmed, and the outlook, especially for England, is gloomy indeed, on account of the great business depression. The damage already is said to be so great that crops cannot recover.

A COMMISSION has been appointed in St. Petersburg to examine into the question whether the censorship of the press cannot be replaced by some system of supervision which shall allow greater latitude, while at the same time preserving the government's control.

AN encouraging indication of the improvement in business in the reduction of mercantile failures during the past six months, there having been 4,038 in the United States with liabilities amounting to \$65,000,000 against 5,825 a year ago, with liabilities of \$130,000,000.

THE Irish correspondent of the London "Christian World," referring to Dr. John Hall's visit to Ireland, says, "His visits to his native land are welcomed and utilized, too, as the frequent announcement of his name in connection with special services indicate."

PROFESSOR GEIKIE, the distinguished Edinburgh geologist, will give a series of lectures at the Lowell Institute, at the beginning of the next term. He will arrive next month, and after a few weeks of travel will return to Boston in time for the opening of the Institute.

IT is reported that the ex-Khedive of Egypt has arrived at Naples, with his four wives, two sons, and two hundred and twenty-five other members of his household and suite. If he can find a residence at Naples large enough to accommodate him, he will arrange to remain there for the present.

THE Empress Eugenie is about to leave England, and pass the remainder of the summer in the Castle of Salazac, in Croatia, which she lately purchased. On the first day of August it will be nine years since she assumed the regency of France, while Napoleon placed himself at the head of the army.

MR. IRA D. SANKEY arrived on Saturday from Europe, where he spent some months resting and singing. Mr. Moody was in New York to welcome his associate's return, and on Sunday the evangelists accepted Mr. Sawyer's invitation to take charge of the services in Cooper Union. The large room was crowded. Mr. Sankey sang, assisted by a chorus of 300 voices, and Mr. Moody preached a short sermon.

THE first confirmation service in Father Hyacinthe's congregation in Paris is to be administered by the Old Catholic Bishop of Switzerland, Bishop Herzog. The Pèr applied to the Primus of Scotland, who had promised episcopal supervision; the Primus applied to the Swiss Federal Council for permission. The Council told him he was at liberty to do what he liked, as he was not to act independently, but as a substitute for a brother bishop.

DR. HENRY H. JESSUP, moderator of the recent American Presbyterian Assembly, has at Montrose, Penn., some specimen blocks of fragrant cedar cut from a tree on Mount Lebanon, which is estimated to be not less than 3,000 years old. For the purpose of aiding the female seminary at Tripoli, Syria, Dr. Jessup offers these blocks at \$5 each. He has also twelve boards of this wood, from 3 to 6 feet in length and from 8 to 11 inches in width, which he will also sell for \$25 each.